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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A portable terminal apparatus for accessing application software and data, stored in a portable recording medium set in said portable terminal apparatus, for performing data processing, comprising:
- 5 read means for reading identification information predetermined to a portable terminal apparatus, previously stored as control information in said recording medium, at a time of gaining access to said application software and data in said recording medium;
- 10 comparison means for comparing said identification information read by said read means with previously set local identification information; and
- access control means for determining whether or not to permit access to said application software and data in said recording medium based on a result of comparison made by said comparison means.
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2. The portable terminal apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case of accessing a recording medium which is associated with a group of portable terminal apparatuses and has stored plural pieces of identification information predetermined to a plurality of portable terminal apparatuses belonging to a same group in association with said portable terminal apparatuses, said access control means determines whether or not to permit access to said application software and data in said recording medium based on
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whether or not said previously set local identification information is included in said plural pieces of identification information read from said recording medium.

5 3. The portable terminal apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case where plural pieces of application software and data are stored in said recording medium and identification information predetermined to each portable terminal apparatus is stored in said recording medium in association with associated application software and data, said read means reads identification information corresponding to application software and data designated as an access target and said access control means determines whether or not to permit access for each application software and data by comparing said identification information read out from said recording medium with said previously set local identification information.

10 4. A data distribution apparatus for writing application software and data in a portable recording medium to ensure distribution of said application software and data to each portable terminal via said recording medium, comprising:

15 acquisition means for acquiring, as access control information, identification information predetermined and previously assigned to a portable terminal whose access to application software and data has been

permitted or inhibited; and

write means for writing said portable terminal identification information acquired by said acquisition means in said recording medium in association with said application software and data.

5 5. The data distribution apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said write means specifies application software and data to be written for each recording medium associated with a portable terminal by referring to definition information for defining, for each
10 application software and data, a portable terminal whose access to said application software and data is to be permitted or inhibited, and writes said specified application software and data together with said
15 portable terminal identification information in said recording medium.

20 6. The data distribution apparatus according to claim 4, wherein at a time of distributing application software and data to a plurality of portable terminals belonging to a same group via said recording medium, said acquisition means acquires plural pieces of
25 identification information predetermined to individual portable terminals belonging to that group and said write means writes said plural pieces of portable terminal identification information belong to said same group acquired by said acquisition means, together with application software and data, in said recording medium.

7. A data distribution apparatus for carrying out data communications with a plurality of portable terminal apparatuses over a network, comprising:

access-restriction information memory means for storing portable terminal identification information as access restriction information in association with each application software and data;

comparison means for, when a request to access application software and data is made from any one of said portable terminal apparatuses, comparing said portable terminal identification information transmitted from said requesting portable terminal apparatus with portable terminal identification information corresponding to said requested application software and data; and

access control means for determining whether or not to permit access to said application software and data based on a result of comparison made by said comparison means.

8. A method for accessing a data recording medium for storing a database for which a portable terminal that is to use said database has previously been specified, comprising the steps of:

determining if a portable terminal which attempts to access said data recording medium is said specified portable terminal that has previously been permitted to access said database stored in said data recording

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medium by collating identification information stored in said data recording medium with identification information stored in said portable terminal; and

5 permitting said portable terminal to access said database stored in said data recording medium when said portable terminal is determined as said specified portable terminal.

10 9. A database accessing method for a system comprising a data distribution apparatus and portable terminals, comprising the steps of:

allowing said data distribution apparatus to distribute a database for which a portable terminal that is to use said database has previously been specified, via a predetermined data recording medium;

15 determining if a portable terminal which attempts to access said data recording medium is said portable terminal which has previously been specified at a time of distribution; and

20 permitting said portable terminal to access said database via said data recording medium and to use data when said portable terminal is determined as said previously specified portable terminal.

10. A data accessing system comprising a data distribution apparatus and portable terminals, wherein

25 at a time of storing a database in a data recording medium associated with a portable terminal which is to use said data recording medium, said data

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distribution apparatus stores predetermined database to be used by said portable terminal associated with said data recording medium in said data recording medium; and

5 at a time of accessing said data recording medium, said portable terminal determines if said data recording medium is associated with said portable terminal and gives a permission to access said data recording medium and said database stored in said data recording medium when said portable terminal is the associated one.

10 11. A recording medium accessing method for accessing a recording medium having an encrypted database stored therein by using a portable terminal, comprising the steps of:

15 performing a first security check of checking if said portable terminal is permitted to access said recording medium at a time said portable terminal accesses said recording medium by collating
20 identification information of said recording medium with identification information in said portable terminal; and

25 performing a second security check of checking if said portable terminal is permitted to decrypt said database stored in said recording medium at a time of decrypting said database stored in said recording medium by carrying out decryption based on key

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information stored only in a previously authenticated portable terminal and a decryption program.

12. A recording medium accessing method for accessing a recording medium by using a portable terminal, comprising the steps of:

generating identification information for associating an arbitrary portable terminal with arbitrary data recording medium;

associating said portable terminal with said data recording medium by writing said generated identification information in said portable terminal and said data recording medium; and

at a time of accessing an arbitrary data recording medium, allowing said portable terminal to determine whether or not to have a permission to access said arbitrary data recording medium based on a result of collating said identification information stored in said arbitrary data recording medium with said identification information stored in said portable terminal.

13. A recording medium accessing method for accessing a recording medium by using a portable terminal, comprising the steps of:

generating group identification information for associating a plurality of portable terminals with one or a plurality of data recording media;

associating said portable terminals with said one

or plurality of data recording media by writing said generated group identification information in said portable terminals and said one or plurality of data recording media; and

5 at a time of accessing an arbitrary data recording medium, allowing an arbitrary one of said portable terminals to determine whether or not to have a permission to access said arbitrary data recording medium based on a result of collating said group
10 identification information stored in said arbitrary data recording medium with said group identification information stored in said portable terminal.

14. A data distribution apparatus for storing a database file to be accessed by a portable terminal in
15 a recording medium, wherein at a time of storing a predetermined database file which is to be used by a portable terminal associated with a recording medium in said recording medium, said data distribution apparatus scrambles said database file in such a manner that
20 descrambling can be carried out by said portable terminal associated with said recording medium, and stores said scrambled database file in said associated recording medium.

15. A portable terminal for accessing a recording
25 medium in which a scrambled database is stored by the data distribution apparatus as recited in claim 14, wherein at a time said portable terminal accesses said

recording medium, said portable terminal determines if
said recording medium is associated with said portable
terminal, and descrambles said scrambled database
stored in said recording medium when said recording
5 medium is the associated one and gives a permission to
access individual records in said descrambled database.

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